Numb. 691

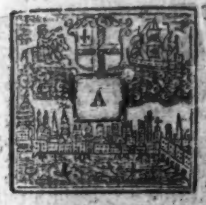
The *UNIVERSAL SPECTATOR*, AND WEEKLY JOURNAL.

By **Henry Stonecastle**, of *Lincoln's-Inn*, *Esq*;

SATURDAY January 2, 1741.

To the AUTHOR *of the* UNIVERSAL SPECTATOR.

Mr. STONECASTLE,



AT this Season, when the Generality of People are indulging in Festivities, by closing the old Year with Mirth, and congratulating each other upon entering on a new; I am of so odd a Temper, that these Occurrences, instead of giving me any Jollity of Heart, fling me into very serious Speculations; for, on this *Verge of Time*, if we look into that which is *past*, we may not find such Cause of Joy for the manner we have spent it; and if we carry our *Prospect* into the *future*, it will demand a serious Attention so to live in that as we may correct the former: It was to inculcate this Moral that the *Antients* depicted the God of the Year with *two Faces*; nor is it so absurd a Piece of Mythology but I could wish the *Moderns* would follow it.

All this Introduction is to acquaint you, I have, the other Evening, made some Reflections on *Time*, from the strange Effects it has brought about in the small Space of twelve Months. Many Examples might be given of this in almost every Family; but in *private Life* every one can make their own Observations. The *Husband* can, at his Table, miss the dear *Wife* who, the last Year, graced it among his Children: The *Wife* cannot forget that the Mirth of a Festival-Evening was heighten'd by the good Nature and Pleasantry of an endearing *Husband*: The *Child* may cry out, Where is my *Parent*? the *Parent*, Where is my *Child*? and no one but, Where is my *Friend* or *Acquaintance*!

Such Changes are naturally the Effect of *Time*: But I have, from reading the publick Account of the Changes which have lately happen'd among the *Emperors* and *Princes*, the new *Partition* of *Dominions*, and sudden *Revolution* of vast *Kingdoms*, from these Occurrences, I say, I have form'd a Speculation how far all Things have their *Beginnings*, their *Progressions*, and their *Falls*.

There is the same Method in all Things in General: They come by slow Degrees to their utmost Heighth; there they stay for some short Space; then decline with such Velocity, that Ruin overwhelms in a Moment what Time was long building up. Mr. *Dryden* very well describes this Effect in the Ruin of a Kingdom:

Down, Down the Precipice of Time *it goes,*
And sinks in Moments *that in* Ages *rose.*

It is the same in Human Nature; Life may be destroy'd in an Instant, but cannot be given without many Months Conception. Again: We, by Habits and Fashion, through a Series of Time, and by Successions, arrive at our *Prime* of Life; when again all is lost in the shortest Motion of a Minute. *Plants*, *Birds*, *Fishes*, *Beasts* and *Men*, all by due Gradations, grow up: So *Families*, *Provinces*, *States*, and *Empires* have the same manner of rising by Degrees. For Instance: There were first *Men*, then *Families*, then *Tribes*, then *Commonwealths*, then *Kingdoms*, *Monarchies* and *Empires*: These Monarchies and Empires, which are the Summit of Dominion, as they rise they fall again; some, indeed, more slowly than others. There was the *Assyrian*, the *Persian*, the *Grecian*, and the *Roman* Empires. The last carry'd worldly Glory to the greatest Heighth, and the Heighth of that Glory was in the Reign of *Augustus*: Peace blessed the Universe; Learning flourished in its fullest Splendor; the whole World was under one Monarch; and this was the *Fulness of Time* in which the *Saviour* of the *World* vouchsafed, by taking Human Nature on him, to descend into the World.——But then, How short a Time did this mighty Empire flourish! *Tiberius*, the next Emperor, degenerated much; his Successor, *Caligula*, more; and so on, by a various Course, till it became emboil'd and dismember'd to an absolute Division.

Of the vast Empires I mention'd, some have remark'd their progressive Situation of Place, and that they succeeded to Power gradually. The *Assyrian* was nearest the *East*; the *Persian* a Degree farther off; the *Grecian* and *Roman* still more distant, following the Course of the Sun: On which an ingenious Author has observ'd, that these Empires seem'd as if, beginning in the Morning of the World, they would make a larger Day by declining toward the *West*, where the Sun goes down after rising in the *East*:——But this is rather a Remark of Pleasantry than Philosophy. There have been some who have aver'd, that the Decay which hastens the final Ruin of all lesser Things, has also so far affected the World, that there is but a short time to its Destruction: Nay, there have been such wise Calculations, as to fix the Time of the Conflagration. I remember to have met with several serious Dissertations, wrote in the last Century, *pro* and *con*, Whether the World was not to have its Period in the Year One thousand six hundred and fifty-six? The Argument why it should end that very Year, was this; Because the Flood destroy'd the former World One thousand six hundred and fifty-six Years after the first destroying *Adam*; therefore the latter World would be consum'd by Fire One thousand six hundred and fifty-six Years after the *Second-Saving Adam*; which is *Christ*.——Though every one laughs at this Conjecture now, I don't doubt but that the Equality of Years in the Computation, and the Typical Remark on *Adam*, gain'd great Numbers of *Proselytes*, who were piously and heartily frighten'd during the whole Year Fifty-six.—That the World will at some Time undergo a Change, by its Dissolution, we believe as certain: But who dare fix a Certainty, where God hath left Mankind in Ignorance?

But from Changes by final Dissolutions, we may consider the Changes which, through the Mutability of Human Affairs, we see in common Life, and it will immediately occur, that some People live to see more Changes in themselves than they could expect could happen to their latest Offspring. Not for this Mutability of Fortune can we blame Providence, but, on Thought, praise its Dispensation. If every one had Power to transmit the certain Possession of all his Acquisitions to his own Successors, there would be nothing left for the virtuous and noble Deeds of others to acquire; which would betray the World to a dull Indolence, and discourage the generous Designs of spirituous Virtue, and honest Ambition. But as Things are, every Man thinks something may fall to his Share; for, since it must crown some one's Endeavours, he imagines, why not *his*. Thus, by the various Pursuits of Men, every Action comes to be done, which is the Use for maintaining Human Society. Since then nothing here below is *certain*, a prudent Man would not purchase any thing with too great Hazard, either of his present Peace of Mind, or future Happiness: On the contrary, if he loses any thing he wish'd to have kept, he should comfort himself with this Reflection, That he knew the World was *changeable*, and that, as *God* can take away a less *Good*, so he can, if he please, confer on him a *greater*:

——Such is my Opinion on looking back on my past Life, and such it is on the Prospect of my future.

EUSEBES.

I am oblig'd to my Correspondent for this moral Lecture, which I have preferr'd to some Letters of a ludicrous Turn of Thought; and I wish every one, at this Time of Year, would make the same kind of Reflections; they would prevent many Misfortunes which ensue from ill Conduct in Life, and comfort those who labour under any which have happen'd through the unavoidable *Mutability* of Human Affairs. I particularly recommend this Practice to the Gentlewoman mention'd in the following Letter.

To HENRY STONECASTLE, *Esq*;

SIR,

I Have a Wife whom I love affectionately; nor can I contradict her, as I ought, in her Desires: This Influence over me has occasion'd many an aching Heart: Her chief ill Use she makes of this Power is *Card-Play*, which she is fond of, though she loses more than I chuse to mention; within the *Twelve Days* only of last *Christmas*, she had from me *Thirty Guineas*; and all of them were sacrificed to her Idol *Piquet*. Now, Sir, if you would advise her not to lose this *Christmas* above *Five*, you will do me great Service, as I have a great many Bills to answer.

Yours,

TONY MEAKLY.

P.S. Last *Christmas* was the first since we were marry'd, and if she goes on so, a few *New Years* and *Twelfth Days*, may make me a *Bankrupt*.

As poor Mr. *Meakly* has so li[illegible]rity, I must exert *mine*; I therefore presume [illegible] That Mr. *Meakly* does not let his Wife have more than *Five Guineas* for *Card Money*; which I think much more than sufficient to be flung away at this Time by the politest Tradesman's Wife in *London*.——I take this Opportunity to recommend to the fortunate Ladies, who play merely for Diversion, that they would appropriate their *Winnings* to some *Acts* of *Charity*; which will make their Amusement give them a *double Pleasure*. I need not mention any particular Manner of applying it, that being at this *Season* too many of our Fellow-Creatures feeling all the Severities of *Cold* and *Hunger*; while others, basking in *Luxury*, turn the *innocent Diversions* of it into *extravagant Scenes* of *Vice* and *Folly*.

An ODE to JANUS.

JANUS, who leads on the Year,
Who reviews the Year that's past,
If you'd be to *Britain's* dear,
Let not *this* be like the *last*.

On thy backward Face I see,
The past viewing, *Storms* assail;
What *new Fleet* is come from Sea?
What *new Camp's* before your Eyes?

Why doft thou thus shake thy Head?
On thy Brow why hangs that Frown?
What *new Treaty* has been made,
Without *new Alliance* known?

Janus, though they're ills you see
They'll not e'er affect your Fame,
For we do not censure thee,
Knowing they from * * * came.

In thy other Face appear
Joy, his Power's not to last,
So you'll be to *Britons* dear,
So *this Year* exceeds the

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Letter from Derbent, Oct. 2.

'THamas Kouli-Kan has lately paſs'd by this City with Part of his Army, in his Return towards the Center of his Empire from the Dagheſtan Expedition, which he has ſucceſsfully finiſh'd. The Perſian Monarch has alſo taken a ſevere Vengeance on the Leſkis, a Nation bordering on the Dagheſtan, who had likewiſe rebell'd againſt him: After he had defeated them in Battle, he made a general Maſſacre of them, ſparing neither Age or Sex. He has ſent the Uſbeck Tanars a new Kan, after beheading the late that govern'd them: This Severity was occaſion'd by a Letter which the latter writ to him to congratulate him on the Succeſs of his Arms againſt the Mogul, and in which he could not diſſemble his jealouſy: The Letter was as follows; 'I congratulate you, O King, on your Victory. Your Glory had been greater had you fought with Men. Thoſe you defeated ought rather to be call'd Women. Go now and look for Conqueſts more worthy of a Conqueror, wherein you may meet with true Glory.'

Peterſbourg, Dec. 9. This Day the Empreſs's ſecond Manifeſto was publiſh'd, and is as follows.

WE ELIZABETH the Firſt, by the Grace of God, Empreſs and Sovereign of all the Ruſſias, &c. do make known to all and every one; that the 7th of May, 1727, O.S after the Demiſe of the moſt illuſtrious and puiſſant Great Lady, Empreſs and Sovereign of all the Ruſſias, *Catharine Alexiewna*, our Mother, of glorious Memory, all our faithful Subjects, both Clergy and Laity, having ſworn to fulfil her Laſt Will, the Emperor Peter the Second was declar'd Succeſſor to the Imperial Throne of Ruſſia, according to the Tenor of the firſt Article: And as to what relates to the Succeſſion to the ſaid Throne, after the Death of that Prince, we find in the eighth Article the following Words:

'If the Grand Prince dies without Iſſue, the Princeſs Imperial *Anne* and her Deſcendants, after her the Princeſs Imperial *Elizabeth* and her Heirs, and then the Grand Princeſs and her Heirs, ſhall ſucceed to the Throne, but ſo as that the Male Heirs ſhall be preferr'd to the Female. No body that is not of the Greek Religion, or that poſſeſſes already another Crown, ſhall ſit in the Imperial Throne.

It follows then, from the Will of her Imperial Majeſty, our Mother, that we are indiſputably become, from the Moment of the Deceaſe of the Emperor Peter the Second, the lawful Heireſs to the paternal [illegible] Nevertheleſs, by the bad Proceedings [illegible] Intrigues of Count d'Oſterman, [illegible]rgh Steward of her Imperial Majeſty's [illegible] and who had the Direction of the moſt important Affairs of the Empire during the Reign of the Emperor Peter the Second, this Will was ſuppreſſed, the ſame Intrigues of the ſaid Oſterman, [illegible] Proceedings, ſo prejudicial to the [illegible]ly appriz'd of, we were excluded [illegible] the late Empreſs *Anne*, of glo[illegible]ſed to it, notwithſtanding our [illegible]wledg'd by the whole Earth, [illegible] to the paternal Throne.

[illegible]ajeſty was taken ill in [illegible] with a mortal Diſtem[illegible]n Act for ſettling the [illegible]nd publiſh'd the 6th [illegible] as nearest that *Joan*, [illegible] of Brunſwick-Lunenburg, [illegible]ious Princeſs *Anne*, [illegible] nominated for Succeſſor to the Throne of Ruſſia, tho' he had no Pre[illegible]ne ſame Regulation [illegible] *Prince of all Ruſſia*. [illegible]; in order to ex[illegible]rone, which ſo [illegible]'d to inſert in [illegible]ath of Prince [illegible] Throne; [illegible]ceaſe the [illegible] Brunſwick[illegible]ſ the Princeſs of Meck[illegible] to the ſaid Throne, that is [illegible] Right to it [illegible] O. S. when moſt Ma[illegible]

It was in this Manner, and by the mutual Intrigues of the ſaid Oſterman and the (late) Veldt-Marſhal Count Munich, that on the 17th of October, 1740, O. S. after the Death of her Imperial Majeſty, Prince *John* was proclaimed Emperor of all Ruſſia: And as our Guards and the Field Regiments were then under the Command of the ſaid Count Munich and Prince Anthony Ulrick of Brunſwick-Lunenbourg, it is eaſy to judge that all our well-meaning Subjects were in the greateſt Conſternation, and oblig'd to conform to the ſaid Regulation by taking the Oaths to Prince *John*, and likewiſe by ſubſcribing to another particular Regulation concerning the Regency during the Minority. Count d'Oſterman had preſented this laſt Regulation ſeveral Times in private to her Imperial Majeſty, and at laſt prevail'd on her to ſign it. Prince Anthony Ulrick and the Princeſs his Conſort ſwore to and ſign'd theſe two Acts, as they paved the Way for them to the Throne.

This Prince and Princeſs, aſſiſted by the ſaid Oſterman and Munich, as alſo by Count Michael Gollowkin, in Contempt of their Oath, as all the World knows, broke thro' the Regulation concerning the Regency, which they had both ſworn to obſerve: The Princeſs Anne of Mecklenbourg aſſum'd by Force the Regency of our Empire, and did not fear to accept the Title of Grand Princeſs, which does not any way belong to her: Which Proceedings not only cauſed great Diſorders, and occaſion'd great Vexations to our faithful Subjects, but Oſterman and Gollowkin, in Concert with the Prince of Brunſwick-Lunenbourg, and the Princeſs Anne his Conſort, eſtabliſh'd, to our great Prejudice, and not without great Danger to our Perſon, a private Regulation concerning the Regency, by which they intended to exclude us abſolutely from the Ruſſian Throne, which belongs to us by all the Laws of God and Man, and by our Birth-Right; and they even laid a Scheme for ſetting the Princeſs Anne upon the Throne in the Life-time of Prince John her Son.

Wherefore, after having maturely deliberated on the Diſorders, ſo prejudicial to the Empire, which happen under the Reign of an Infant of 14 Months old, as likewiſe on the frequent Vexations our faithful Subjects have ſuffer'd, and the dangerous Conſequences that may attend them; and being, moreover, deſirous to provide for the Safety of our own Imperial Perſon, and to prevent all theſe Evils, we have, with the Aſſiſtance of Almighty God, and at the Inſtance and moſt humble Intreaties of our moſt faithful Subjects, particularly our Life-Guards, mounted the paternal Throne the 6th Inſtant, as it appear'd by the Manifeſto publiſh'd that Day: And tho' neither the Princeſs Anne, nor Prince John her Son, nor Princeſs Catherine her Daughter, have the leaſt Right or Pretenſion to the Throne of Ruſſia, as hath been ſhewn above, and that they cannot even have any well-grounded Pretext, we have, nevertheleſs, vouchſafed, in Conſideration of the Affinity between Prince Anthony Ulrick and the Emperor Peter the Second, and between us and the Princeſs Anne, to grant them our Imperial Protection, and forgetting entirely all the Steps they have taken to our Prejudice, we have order'd them to be conducted to their own Country with all the Honours due to them, and ſuitable Gratifications.

The Original of this Manifeſto was ſign'd with the Empreſs's own Hand the 9th of December.

Extract of a private Letter from Stockholm, Dec. 22.

'The Revolution in Ruſſia has cauſed leſs Surprize at Court than among the Publick: For ſome time paſt the Miniſtry were inform'd that there was a great Ferment there, and that the People as well as the greateſt Part of the Army were devoted to the Princeſs Elizabeth. The Miniſtry had even ſuch certain Intelligence on this Head, and were ſo well inform'd of the Princeſs Elizabeth's Sentiments, that had the Aſſiſtance of the Swediſh Army been wanted in order to bring about this Change, the might have depended upon it. Private Diſpatches brought to the King by a Courier who arriv'd from Finland the 16th Inſtant, import, 'That the Empreſs Elizabeth, deſiring to make Peace with the King of Sweden, would ſend Orders to her Army in Finland to ceaſe all Hoſtilities; that ſhe expected his Swediſh Majeſty would do the ſame on his Side, and that ſhe invited him to appoint a proper Place for ſetting the Conditions of Peace.' The King was highly pleas'd with this Propoſal, and immediately ſent Orders to ceaſe Hoſtilities in Finland; he alſo diſpatch'd a Courier to Peterſbourg to inform that Court, that he is very willing to treat about a Peace, and leaves it to the Empreſs to fix upon a Place for the Plenipotentiaries to meet.

'Several Conferences have already been held at Count G[illegible]nbourg's, on this new Turn of Affairs, and how to bring about a Peace with Ruſſia as ſoon as poſſible. As that Power made Propoſals extreamly advantageous with reſpect to Livonia, when the late Troubles in Poland broke out, we don't doubt but that the Empreſs Elizabeth is diſpoſed to reſtore Part of the Provinces ceded by the Treaty of Nyſtadt; in Conſideration of which, this Kingdom would grant the moſt advantageous Conditions that that Princeſs can deſire. We look upon it as ſomething very remarkable, that the Queen died the ſame Day that the Revolution began at Peterſbourg. As her Majeſty's Death obliges the Miniſtry to make ſome new Regulations concerning the Succeſſion to the Throne, that Buſineſs will be taken in hand forthwith.'

Letter from Peterſbourg, Dec. 12.

'Prince Anthony Ulrick of Brunſwick, the Princeſs his Conſort; with Prince John and the Princeſs Catherine, their Children, ſet out this Morning at Four o'Clock for Germany. We are aſſur'd that the Empreſs made them a conſiderable Preſent in ready Money, and gave 30,000 Rubles to the Harbingers of the Court to defray their Expences on the Road. Prince Lewis of Brunſwick is ſtill here; the Empreſs has ſent him word that he is at Liberty to retire whenever he pleaſes, and in the mean time may make uſe of the Court Coaches and Equipages. Her Imperial Majeſty has ſet at Liberty all the Swediſh Officers in this City, and ſent Orders to ceaſe Hoſtilities in Finland.

'The Veldt Marſhal Prince Dolgorucky is come back from his Exile, with the two Brothers of the ſame Name, whoſe Tongues were lately cut out. The Princeſs Dolgorucky, who was promiſed in Marriage to the Emperor Peter II. is alſo come back. Orders have been ſent to Siberia to give a little more Liberty to the late Duke of Courland to attend upon him as a Prince, and to be at his hunting. It is pretended that his Brother [illegible] have already obtain'd Leave to come to Court.

'The Cabinet-Council conſiſts of eleven Perſons, viz. the Prince of Heſſe-Hombourg, the Veldt-Marſhal Lacy; Prince Czerkaſki, High Chancellor; M. Beſtucheff, Cabinet-Miniſter; Count Gallowin; General Oſchakow, two other Ruſſian Generals; the Knees Kurakin; the Attorney-General Trubetzkoy; and the Knees Nateſcekin. It is ſaid that the young Duke of Holſtein has been invited to come to Court.

Berlin, Dec. 26. His Majeſty, who has always had a great Eſteem for Count Munich, is highly concern'd to hear that that General is under Confinement, on account of the Revolution in Ruſſia. The King has reſolved to intercede with the new Empreſs to grant him his Liberty, which if complied with, he will, in all Probability, ſettle into his Majeſty's Dominions. The King has declared that he will preſerve for him and his Family the Lordſhip of Wartenburgh in Sileſia.

We hear by Letters from Kiel, that they have lately held ſeveral Conferences there about ſecuring the Succeſſion to the Swediſh Throne to the Duke of Holſtein; and that his Serene Highneſs has receiv'd a Letter from the Empreſs of Ruſſia, wherein ſhe aſſures him that ſhe will always take particular Care of his Intereſts.

Some Advices from Conſtantinople, by the way of Venice, aſſure, That the Grand Vizir has been ſtrangled; but other Letters only mention his being depoſed.

IRELAND.

Cork, Dec. 15. A few Days ago arriv'd here 2 Privateers belonging to Boſton in New-England, who in their Paſſage out into the Canaries, expecting to get a Prey there, but the Country People came down on them and took 48 of their Hands Priſoners: They brought in here only 25 Hands with them, but in a ſhort Time they expect to make up their Complement of Men, and then proceed, in order to ſeek Revenge of the Spaniards.

Dublin, Dec. 19. Last Tuesday Night died the Hon. Robert Allen, Esq; Secretary to the Commissioners of his Majesty's Revenue, and Knight of the Shire for the County of Wicklow.

The Hon. John Ponsonby, Esq; second Son to the Right Hon. the Earl of Besborough, is appointed Secretary to the Commissioners, in Mr. Allen's room.

On Wednesday last died, at his House in George's Lane, the Rev. Mr. Whittingham, Archdeacon of the See of Dublin.

This Week died at his Seat in the County of Cork, Sir Matthew Dean, Bart. Knight of the Shire for the said County.

Dublin, Dec. 22. Last Friday, about 12 o'Clock, the Mary and Elizabeth, of Liverpool, John Kennedy Master, in her Passage to this Port, sprung a Leak and sunk seven Leagues to the Eastward of Howth: There were eighteen Passengers and Sailors on board; four of the former and eight of the latter were drown'd, the other thirteen were taken up by a Wherry and carry'd into Howth.

The Report of John Bodkin, Esq; making his Escape out of Gallway Gaol is without Foundation.

COUNTRY NEWS.

Bristol, Dec. 24. Last Friday se'nnight a large Ball of Fire, with a long Train, was seen in the Element, by several People in Kendalshire, and many other neighbouring Places of this City, which greatly surpriz'd them; and they report that this Phænomena was as big as a Bushel, and fell in the North.

LONDON.

Yesterday se'nnight being Christmas-day, the same was observ'd at Court as a high Festival; the Knights Companions of the Most Noble Orders of the Garter, Thistle and Bath appear'd in the Collars of their respective Orders. At Noon his Majesty, the Duke, and Princesses went to the Chapel Royal, preceded by the Pursuivants and Heralds at Arms, attended by the Nobility and Gentry, and heard a Sermon preach'd by the Rev. Dr. Hayter. After Divine Service his Majesty, the Duke and the Princesses receiv'd the Holy Communion from the Hands of the Lord Bishop of London, Dean of the Chapel Royal, assisted by the Bishop of Hereford, Clerk of the Closet to the King. His Majesty, according to Custom, made his Offering at the Altar of a Wedge of Gold, call'd the Byzant, for the Benefit of the Poor.

Last Sunday the Court went into Mourning on account of the Death of the Queen of Sweden: The Men to wear Black, full trimm'd, black Swords and Buckles, plain or frine'd Linnen. The Ladies to wear black Silk or Velver, black and white Fans, plain or fring'd Linnen, and black or white Shoes.

Tuesday was held a Board of Treasury, when their Lordships were pleased to appoint Carr Brackenbury, Esq; to be Receiver-General of the Land-Tax for the County of Lincoln, in the Room of his Father deceas'd.

The Press for Seamen, by Land especially, is as it were wholly discontinued at present; tho' from the View of Affairs at the End of the Perspective presented to us, there never was greater need of augmenting our Marine, since both French and Spanish Fleets seem united to dispute with Great Britain her long-claim'd Dominion [illegible].

A Squadron of Ships is order'd for Channel Service, and for the Security of the Trade on our own Coasts, of which Capt. Ambrose in the Rupert, who has been so successful in taking the Spanish Privateers, is appointed Commodore.

Sir Charles Wynham, Bart. will be elected Member of Parliament for Apulbee in Westmorland, in the room of George Doddington, Esq; who has made his Election for Bridgwater in Somersetshire.

Some private Letters by the last French Mail assure us, that positive Orders have been issued from the War Office, to the Officers of the several Regiments, to have their Companies completely fill'd by the beginning of April, on Pain of being cashier'd.

And we hear a great Number of Horses are order'd to be bought up as soon as possible, to compleat their Cavalry.

The Mail from France, which arriv'd on Sunday, brought over in the Paris A-la-main a Letter from the Hague, containing such Reflections on his Majesty's Speech to the Parliament as are not at all proper for an English News-Paper.

They write from Paris, that on the 20th Instant died suddenly, in the 88th Year of his Age, Father Bernard de Montfaucon, a Benedictine of the Congregation of St. Maur, a Fryar of the Abbey of St. Germain de Prez, Honorary Member of the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres, and the Editor of those learned Tomes which are such a curious Representation and Explanation of Antiquity.

Letters from New York bring Advice of the Death of Stephen de Lanfie, Esq; a Merchant of great Wealth and Abilities in Trade, and one of the Council of that Colony.

Last Week, about Four in the Afternoon, died, at his House in Grosvenor-Square, aged 77, the Right Hon. Sir Charles Wills, Knight of the Bath, General of his Majesty's Forces, Colonel of the First Regiment of Foot-Guards, and Member of Parliament for Totnes in Devonshire. Sir Robert Rich, Bart. is, by his Last Will and Testament, appointed his Executor. The General has given Capt. Rich, Sir Robert's Son, 5000 l. Col. Carr, and Mr. Small the Surgeon, each 500 l. to his Nephew, Ensign Wills, 200 l. a Year during his Life; to his Butler and Cook 100 l. each, and to all his other Servants one Year's Wages.

A few Days ago died, at his Seat near Norwich, upwards of Eighty Years of Age, John Drury, Esq; who was to have been married this Week to a young Gentlewoman but Nineteen Years of Age.

Yesterday se'nnight died Robert Sanderson, Esq; Usher of the High Court of Chancery: And on Saturday his Honour the Master of the Rolls was pleased to appoint —— Dennis, Esq; to succeed him.

Thursday se'nnight died, at his House in Stratten-street, Piccadilly, General Dormer, an old experienced Officer.

Last Week died at Norwich the Rev. Dr. Hubbard, one of the Prebendaries of that Cathedral, and Master of Catherine-Hall, Cambridge, in which University he pass'd thro' the several publick Offices of Proctor and Vice-Chancellor.

A few Days since died at Market Harborough in Leicestershire, Sir William Norwich, Bart. who dying unmarried, the Title is extinct, and his Fortune goes to his Sisters.

[illegible] next Morning that would surprise her; she answer'd with some Gaiety, and withdrew. Next Morning a Letter came, and she, with Joy she always felt on receiving a Letter from him, broke it open:——But what must be her Astonishment when she read thus!

'To CHARLES [illegible]

On Sunday died at Whitehall, Mrs. Gibson, Lady of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London. She had been married to his Lordship 37 Years, and had 13 Children, of whom five Sons and four Daughters, are now living.

Monday died, at his Sister's House in London-street in Fenchurch-street, James Carbonell, Esq; late Sword-Bearer of this City. About a Month since he sold his Place to Mr. Dormer for 5000 l.

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Last Week Thomas Fleet was committed to the New Gaol, Southwark, by John Seyliard, Esq; and on his own Confession, for stealing out of the Waggon of Richard Fikewood a Cheshire Cheese, several Parcels of Sugar and Spice, and divers Yards of Cambler, to a considerable Value. But tho' guarded, and his Hands tied, he found Means, just as he was brought to Gaol to cut his Throat with a Razor, unknown to those who attended him, in so dangerous a Manner, that it is questioned whether he will recover of his Wound.

The same Night, between Ten and Eleven, Mr. Philebert Spurlock was assaulted in St. Alban's-Street, as he was coming home, by two Russians, who beat him very much, and robb'd him of his Hat, and then made off; but presently afterwards met him again, and would have robb'd him of something else, if he had not, with great Hazard of his Life, attack'd one of the Villains, (whose Name is Samuel Prince) and secur'd him till the Watch came; and on Sunday Morning he was brought before Justice Trent, and by him committed to the Gatehouse.

The Rochester, Capt. Hewitt, from New-England, for London, with Masts, is taken by a Spanish Privateer, and carried into St. Sebastian's. She sail'd from New-England under Convoy of his Majesty's Ship the Squirrel, Capt. Warren, who arriv'd some time since in the River; but was separated in a Gale of Wind. This is look'd upon to be the most valuable Prize to the Spaniards since the Commencement of the War, they being in great Want of Masts.

On Sunday Morning drove ashore near Kingsdown the Royal Anne, Tho. Dennison Master, about 90 Tons, laden with Iron and Deals from London, bound to Bristol. All her Men are saved, but 'tis thought the Ship will be lost.

The Master of a Portugueze Ship just arriv'd, reports, that he saw within seven Leagues of Scilly, the great Spanish Privateer, that mounts 36 Carriage Guns, and carries 300 Men.

Extract of a Letter from Bilboa, Dec. 23. N. S.

'Last Night came in one of our Privateers with 'three Prizes, one the Elizabeth, Douglas, from Lon-'don and Southampton for Madeira and Carolina; a 'Ship for Maryland; and another for Carolina. The 'Privateer, a few Days ago, in thick Weather, at-'tack'd a Swedish Ship about a League and a half 'from Scilly, who kill'd the Captain of the Privateer, 'and the second Mate, with eighteen of their Men, 'and oblig'd them to sheer off.'

Capt. Douglas was sometime since in his Passage from St. Kitt's taken by the Spaniards, and made his Escape, and soon after his Arrival here was made Captain of the Elizabeth.

From the London Gazette.

Hague, Jan. 2. By Letters from Madrid we are inform'd, that the French Squadron from Toulon had been driven into Carthagena in a very shatter'd Condition, having met with a most violent Storm, during which the Lightning had set Fire to the Masts and Rigging of a 70 Gun Ship, which they were obliged to cut away and throw over-board, and that the same Accident had befallen some other Ships of the same Squadron. And it is likewise written from thence, that the Spanish Squadron from Cadiz, which had enter'd the Streights the 4th of last Month, had been driven back into the Ocean by contrary Winds.

Whitehall, Dec. 26. Letters from Lisbon of the 5th Instant give an Account of the Arrival there of his Majesty's Ships the Bedford, Elizabeth, and Essex, with several Transports and Store-Ships for Gibraltar, and that they were preparing, together with the Rochester, to sail as soon as possible, in order to join Rear Admiral Haddock. There is likewise Advice, that his Majesty's Ship the Marlborough, which had been separated from the rest, is safely arriv'd at Gibraltar.

BANKRUPT.

Thomas Oldham, of Manchester in the County Lancaster, Woollendraper and Mercer.

Benjamin Lund, of the Parish of St. P[illegible] Jacob in the County of Gloucester, Dea[illegible] and Brass.

Richard Carr, now or late of [illegible] Flaxdresser and Chapman.

William Smith, late of th[illegible] maker.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Letter from Derbent, Oct. 2.

'THamas Kouli-Kan has lately paſs'd by this City with Part of his Army, in his Return towards the Center of his Empire from the Daghestan Expedition, which he has ſucceſsfully finiſh'd. The Perſian Monarch has alſo taken a ſevere Vengeance on the Leſkis, a Nation bordering on the Daghestan, who had likewiſe rebell'd againſt him: After he had defeated them in Battle, he made a general Maſſacre of them, ſparing neither Age or Sex. He has ſent the Uſbeck Tartars a new Kan, after beheading the late that govern'd them: This Severity was occaſion'd by a Letter which the latter writ to him to congratulate him on the Succeſs of his Arms againſt the Muſcovites, and in which he could not diſſemble his jealouſy: The Letter was as follows; 'I congratulate you, O King, on your Victory. Your Glory had been greater had you fought with Men. Thoſe you have defeated ought rather to be call'd Women. Go now and look for Conqueſts more worthy of a Conqueror, wherein you may meet with true Glory.'

Peterſbourg, Dec. 9. This Day the Empreſs's ſecond Manifeſto was publiſh'd, and is as follows.

WE ELIZABETH the Firſt, by the Grace of God, Empreſs and Sovereign of all the Ruſſias, &c. to all and every one; that the 7th of May, 1727, O.S. after the Demiſe of the moſt illuſtrious and puiſſant Great Lady, Empreſs and Sovereign of all the Ruſſias, *Catharine Alexiewna*, our Mother, of glorious Memory, all our faithful Subjects, both Clergy and Laity, having ſworn to fulfil her Laſt Will, the Emperor Peter the Second was declar'd Succeſſor to the Imperial Throne of Ruſſia, according to the Tenor of the firſt Article: And as to what relates to the Succeſſion to the ſaid Throne, after the Death of that Prince, we find in the eighth Article the following Words:

'If the Grand Prince dies without Iſſue, the Princeſs Imperial *Anne* and her Deſcendants, after her the Princeſs Imperial *Elizabeth* and her Heirs, and then the Grand Princeſs and her Heirs, ſhall ſucceed to the Throne, but ſo as that the Male Heirs ſhall be preferr'd to the Female. No body that is not of the Greek Religion, or that poſſeſſes already another Crown, ſhall ſit in the Imperial Throne.

It follows then, from the Will of her Imperial Majeſty, our Mother, that we are indiſputably become, from the Moment of the Deceaſe of the Emperor Peter the Second, the lawful Heireſs to the paternal [illegible] of R[illegible] Nevertheleſs, by the bad Proceed- Intrigues of Count d'Oſterman, [illegible]rgh Steward of her Imperial Majeſty's and who had the Direction of the moſt important Affairs of the Empire during the Reign of the Emp[illegible]eter the Second, this Will was ſup- ſame Intrigues of the ſaid Oſterman, [illegible]d Proceedings, ſo prejudicial to the [illegible]lly appriz'd of, we were excluded the late Empreſs *Anne*, of glo- [illegible]ſed to it, notwithſtanding our [illegible]knowledg'd by the whole Earth, [illegible] to the paternal Throne.

[illegible] Majeſty was taken ill in [illegible] with a mortal Diſtem- [illegible]n Act for ſettling the [illegible] [illegible]nd publiſh'd the 6th [illegible] was ſtatued that *ſoon*, [illegible] of Brunſwick-Lunen- [illegible] Princeſs *Anne*, [illegible] nominated for Suc- [illegible]tho' he had no Pre- [illegible]he ſame Regulation [illegible] *Prince of all Ruſſia.* [illegible] did not ſtop there; in order to ex- [illegible] paternal Throne, which ſo [illegible]'d to inſert in [illegible] [illegible]th of Prince [illegible] ſhould ſucceed to the Throne; [illegible]eaſe the [illegible] Brunſwick- [illegible] born of the Princeſs of Mecklen- [illegible] to the ſaid Throne, that [illegible] leaſt Right to it [illegible] [illegible] plainly to [illegible] [illegible] O.S. when moſt [illegible]

It was in this Manner, and by the mutual Intrigues of the ſaid Oſterman and the (late) Veldt-Marſhal Count Munich, that on the 17th of October, 1740, O.S. after the Death of her Imperial Majeſty, Prince *John* was proclaimed Emperor of all Ruſſia: And as our Guards and the Field Regiments were then under the Command of the ſaid Count Munich and Prince Anthony Ulrick of Brunſwick-Lunenbourg, it is eaſy to judge that all our well-meaning Subjects were in the greateſt Conſternation, and oblig'd to conform to the ſaid Regulation by taking the Oaths to Prince *John*, and likewiſe by ſubſcribing to another particular Regulation concerning the Regency during the Minority. Count d'Oſterman had preſented this laſt Regulation ſeveral Times in private to her Imperial Majeſty, and at laſt prevail'd on her to ſign it. Prince Anthony Ulrick and the Princeſs his Conſort ſwore to and ſign'd theſe two Acts, as they paved the Way for them to the Throne.

This Prince and Princeſs, aſſiſted by the ſaid Oſterman and Munich, as alſo by Count Michael Gollowkin, in Contempt of their Oath, as all the World knows, broke thro' the Regulation concerning the Regency, which they had bore ſworn to obſerve: The Princeſs Anne of Mecklenbourg aſſum'd by Force the Regency of our Empire, and did not fear to accept the Title of Grand Princeſs, which does not any way belong to her: Which Proceedings not only cauſed great Diſorders, and occaſion'd great Vexations to our faithful Subjects, but Oſterman and Gollowkin, in Concert with the Prince of Brunſwick-Lunenbourg, and the Princeſs Anne his Conſort, eſtabliſh'd, to our great Prejudice, and not without great Danger to our Perſon, a private Regulation concerning the Regency, by which they intended to exclude us abſolutely from the Ruſſian Throne, which belongs to us by all the Laws of God and Man, and by our Birth-Right; and they even laid a Scheme for ſetting the Princeſs Anne upon the Throne in the Life-time of Prince John her Son.

Wherefore, after having matutely deliberated on the Diſorders, ſo prejudicial to the Empire, which happen under the Reign of an Infant of 14 Months o.d, as likewiſe on the frequent Vexations our faithful Subjects have ſuffer'd, and the dangerous Conſequences that may attend them; and being, moreover, deſirous to provide for the Safety of our own Imperial Perſon, and to prevent all theſe Evils, we have, with the Aſſiſtance of Almighty God, and at the Inſtance and moſt humble Intreaties of our moſt faithful Subjects, particularly our Life-Guards, mounted the paternal Throne the 6th Inſtant, as it appear'd by the Manifeſto publiſh'd that Day: And tho' neither the Princeſs Anne, nor Prince John her Son, nor Princeſs Catherine her Daughter, have the leaſt Right or Pretenſion to the Throne of Ruſſia, as hath been ſhewn above, and that they cannot even have any well-grounded Pretext, we have, nevertheleſs, vouchſafed, in Conſideration of the Affinity between Prince Anthony Ulrick and the Emperor Peter the Second, and between us and the Princeſs Anne, to grant them our Imperial Proteſtion, and forgetting entirely all the Steps they have taken to our Prejudice, we have order'd them to be conducted to their own Country with all the Honours due to them, and ſuitable Gratifications.

The Original of this Manifeſto was ſign'd with the Empreſs's own Hand the 9th of December.

Extract of a private Letter from Stockholm, Dec. 22.

'The Revolution in Ruſſia has cauſed leſs Surprize at Court than among the Publick: For ſome time paſt the Miniſtry were inform'd that there was a great Ferment there, and that the People as well as the greateſt Part of the Army were devoted to the Princeſs Elizabeth. The Miniſtry had even ſuch certain Intelligence on this Head, and were ſo well inform'd of the Princeſs Elizabeth's Sentiments, that had the Aſſiſtance of the Swediſh Army been wanted in order to bring about this Change, ſhe might have depended upon it. Private Diſpatches brought to the King by a Courier who arriv'd from Finland the 16th Inſtant, import, 'That the Empreſs Elizabeth, deſiring to make Peace with the King of Sweden, would ſend Orders to her Army in Finland to ceaſe all Hoſtilities; that ſhe expected his Swediſh Majeſty would do the ſame on his Side, and that ſhe invited him to appoint a proper Place for ſetting the Conditions of Peace.' The King was highly pleas'd with this Propoſal, and immediately ſent Orders to ceaſe Hoſtilities in Finland; he alſo diſpatch'd a Courier to Peterſbourg to inform that Court, that he is very willing to treat about a Peace, and leaves it to the Empreſs to fix upon a Place for the Plenipotentiaries to meet.

'Several Conferences have already been held at Count Gyllenbourg's, on this new Turn of Affairs, and how to bring about a Peace with Ruſſia as ſoon as poſſible. As that Power made Propoſals extreamly advantageous with reſpect to Livonia, when the late Troubles in Poland broke out, we don't doubt but that the Empreſs Elizabeth is diſpoſed to reſtore Part of the Provinces ceded by the Treaty of Nyſtadt; in Conſideration of which, this Kingdom would grant the moſt advantageous Conditions that that Princeſs can deſire. We look upon it as ſomething very remarkable, that the Queen died the ſame Day that the Revolution began at Peterſbourg. As her Majeſty's Death obliges the Miniſtry to make ſome new Regulations concerning the Succeſſion to the Throne, that Buſineſs will be taken in hand forthwith.'

Letter from Peterſbourg, Dec. 12.

'Prince Anthony Ulrick of Brunſwick, the Princeſs his Conſort; with Prince John and the Princeſs Catherine, their Children, ſet out this Morning at Four o'Clock for Germany. We are aſſur'd that the Empreſs made them a conſiderable Preſent in ready Money, and gave 30,000 Rubles to the Harbingers of the Court to defray their Expences on the Road. Prince Lewis of Brunſwick is ſtill here; the Empreſs has ſent him word that he is at Liberty to retire whenever he pleaſes, and in the mean time may make uſe of the Court Coaches and Equipages. Her Imperial Majeſty has ſet at Liberty all the Swediſh Officers in this City, and ſent Orders to ceaſe Hoſtilities in Finland.

'The Veldt Marſhal Prince Dolgorucky is come back from his Exile, with the two Brothers of the ſame Name, whoſe Tongues were lately cut out. The Princeſs Dolgorucky, who was promiſed in Marriage to the Emperor Peter II. is alſo come back. Orders have been ſent to Siberia to give a little more Liberty to the late Duke of Courland, to attend upon him as a Prince, and to let him go a hunting. It is pretended that his Brother has already obtain'd Leave to come to Court.

'The Cabinet-Council conſiſts of eleven Perſons, viz. the Prince of Heſſe-Hombourg, the Veldt-Marſhal Lacy; Prince Czerkaſki, High Chancellor; M. Beſtuchieff, Cabinet-Miniſter; Count Gollowkin; General Uſchakow, two other Ruſſian Generals; the Knees Kurakin; the Attorney-General Trubezkoy; and the Knees Nateſcekin. It is ſaid that the young Duke of Holſtein has been invited to come to Court.

Berlin, Dec. 26. His Majeſty, who has always had a great Eſteem for Count Munich, is highly concern'd to hear that that General is under Confinement, on account of the Revolution in Ruſſia. The King has reſolved to intercede with the new Empreſs to grant him his Liberty, which if complied with, he will, in all Probability, retire into his Majeſty's Dominions. The King has declared that he will preſerve for him and his Family the Lordſhip of Wartenburgh in Sileſia.

We hear by Letters from Kiel, that they have lately held ſeveral Conferences there about ſecuring the Succeſſion to the Swediſh Throne to the Duke of Holſtein; and that his Serene Highneſs has receiv'd a Letter from the Empreſs of Ruſſia, wherein ſhe aſſures him that ſhe will always take particular Care of his Intereſts.

Some Advices from Conſtantinople, by the way of Venice, aſſure, That the Grand Vizir has been ſtrangled; but other Letters only mention his being depoſed.

IRELAND.

Cork, Dec. 15. A few Days ago arriv'd here 2 Privateers belonging to Boſton in New-England, who in their Paſſage put into the Canaries, expecting to get a Prey there, but the Country People came down on them and took 48 of their Hands Priſoners: They brought in here only 25 Hands with them, but in a ſhort Time they expect to make up their Complement of Men, and then proceed, in order to ſeek Revenge of the Spaniards.

Dublin, Dec. 19. Last Tuesday Night died the Hon. Robert Allen, Esq; Secretary to the Commissioners of his Majesty's Revenue, and Knight of the Shire for the County of Wicklow.

The Hon. John Ponsonby, Esq; second Son to the Right Hon. the Earl of Besborough, is appointed Secretary to the Commissioners, in Mr. Allen's room.

On Wednesday last died, at his House in George's Lane, the Rev. Mr. Whitingham, Archdeacon of the See of Dublin.

This Week died at his Seat in the County of Cork, Sir Matthew Dean, Bart. Knight of the Shire for the said County.

Dublin, Dec. 18. Last Friday, about 12 o'Clock, the Mary and Elizabeth, of Liverpool, John Kennedy Master, in her Passage to this Port, sprung a Leak and sunk seven Leagues to the Eastward of Howth: There were eighteen Passengers and Sailors on board; four of the former and eight of the latter were drown'd, the other thirteen were taken up by a Wherry and carry'd into Howth.

The Report of John Bodkin, Esq; making his Escape out of Gallway Gaol is without Foundation.

COUNTRY NEWS.

Bristol, Dec. 24. Last Friday se'nnight a large Ball of Fire, with a long Train, was seen in the Element, by several People in Kendalshire, and many other neighbouring Places of this City, which greatly surpriz'd them; and they report that this Phænomena was as big as a Bushel, and fell in the North.

LONDON.

Yesterday se'nnight being Christmas-day, the same was observ'd at Court as a high Festival; the Knights Companions of the Most Noble Orders of the Garter, Thistle and Bath appear'd in the Collars of their respective Orders. At Noon his Majesty, the Duke, and Princesses went to the Chapel Royal, preceded by the Pursuivants and Heralds at Arms, attended by the Nobility and Gentry, and heard a Sermon preach'd by the Rev. Dr. Hayter. After Divine Service his Majesty, the Duke and the Princesses receiv'd the Holy Communion from the Hands of the Lord Bishop of London, Dean of the Chapel Royal, assisted by the Bishop of Hereford, Clerk of the Closet to the King. His Majesty, according to Custom, made his Offering at the Altar of a Wedge of Gold, call'd the Byzant, for the Benefit of the Poor.

Last Sunday the Court went into Mourning on account of the Death of the Queen of Sweden: The Men to wear Black, full trimm'd, black Swords and Buckles, plain or fring'd Linnen. The Ladies to wear black Silk or Velver, black and white Fans, plain or fring'd Linnen, and black or white Shoes.

Tuesday was held a Board of Treasury, when their Lordships were pleased to appoint Carr Brackenbury, Esq; to be Receiver-General of the Land-Tax for the County of Lincoln, in the Room of his Father deceas'd.

The Press for Seamen, by Land especially, is as it were wholly discontinued at present; tho' from the View of Affairs at the End of the Perspective presented to us, there never was greater need of augmenting our Marine, since both French and Spanish Fleets seem united to dispute with Great Britain her long-claim'd Dominion.

A Squadron of [illegible] is order'd for Channel Service, and for the Security of the Trade on our own Coasts, of which Capt. Ambrose in the Rupert, who has been so successful in taking the Spanish Privateers, is appointed Commodore.

Sir Charles Wynham, Bart. will be elected Member of Parliament for Apulbee in Westmorland, in the room of George Doddington, Esq; who has made his Election for Bridgwater in Somersetshire.

Some private Letters by the last French Mail assure us, that positive Orders have been issued from the War Office, to the Officers of the several Regiments, to have their Companies completely fill'd by the beginning of April, on Pain of being cashier'd.

And we hear a great Number of Horses are order'd to be bought up as soon as possible, to compleat their Cavalry.

The Mail from France, which arriv'd on Sunday, brought over in the Paris A-la-main a Letter from the Hague, containing such Reflections on his Majesty's Speech to the Parliament as are not at all proper for an English News-Paper.

They write from Paris, that on the 10th Instant died suddenly, in the 88th Year of his Age, Father Bernard de Montfaucon, a Benedictine of the Congregation of St. Maur, a Fryar of the Abbey of St. Germain de Prez, Honorary Member of the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres, and the Editor of those learned Tomes which are such a curious Representation and Explanation of Antiquity.

Letters from New York bring Advice of the Death of Stephen de Lanfie, Esq; a Merchant of great Wealth and Abilities in Trade, and one of the Council of that Colony.

Last Week, about Four in the Afternoon, died, at his House in Grosvenor-Square, aged 77, the Right Hon. Sir Charles Wills, Knight of the Bath, General of his Majesty's Forces, Colonel of the First Regiment of Foot-Guards, and Member of Parliament for Totnes in Devonshire. Sir Robert Rich, Bart. is, by his Last Will and Testament, appointed his Executor. The General has given Capt. Rich, Sir Robert's Son, 5000 l. Col. Carr, and Mr. Small the Surgeon, each 500 l. to his Nephew, Ensign Wills, 200 l. a Year during his Life; to his Butler and Cook 100 l. each, and to all his other Servants one Year's Wages.

A few Days ago died, at his Seat near Norwich, upwards of Eighty Years of Age, John Drury, Esq; who was to have been married this Week to a young Gentlewoman but Nineteen Years of Age.

Yesterday se'nnight died Robert Sanderson, Esq; Usher of the High Court of Chancery: And on Saturday his Honour the Master of the Rolls was pleased to appoint —— Dennis, Esq; to succeed him.

Thursday se'nnight died, at his House in Stratten-street, Piccadilly, General Dormer, an old experienced Officer.

Last Week died at Norwich the Rev. Dr. Hubbard, one of the Prebendaries of that Cathedral, and Master of Catherine-Hall, Cambridge, in which University he pass'd thro' the several publick Offices of Proctor and Vice-Chancellor.

A few Days since died at Market Harborough in Leicestershire, Sir William Norwich, Bart. who dying unmarried, the Title is extinct, and his Fortune goes to his Sisters.

[redacted]

On Sunday died at Whitehall, Mrs. Gibson, Lady of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London. She had been married to his Lordship 37 Years, and had 13 Children, of whom five Sons and four Daughters are now living.

Monday died, at his Sister's House in London-street in Fenchurch-street, James Carbonell, Esq; late Sword-Bearer of this City. About a Month since he sold his Place to Mr. Dormer for 5000 l.

Tuesday Morning died Mr. Griffiths, a wholesale Distiller and Tobacconist in Bread-Street.

Last Week a poor Fellow, who thro' Charity was suffer'd to lie in a Garret in Wardour-street, wickedly meditated a Design to rob his Benefactor, and accordingly got into the Gutter, and cut off as much Lead as he imagin'd he could conveniently carry off; but in rolling it up he happen'd to fold imperceptibly the Flap of his Great Coat therein, which, as he threw the Lead over into the Street, pull'd him along with it, and dash'd his Brains out.

For some Time past the Inhabitants in and about Stoke Newington have been pester'd with a Set of Rogues who have robb'd all their Out-houses, and taken almost every Thing they could carry away. One of the Inhabitants heard them at their Work as he lay in Bed, but believing it was at next Door, he thought every Man was to take Care only of his own Property, and went to sleep; but to his great Surprize in the Morning, [illegible] and they had stolen a fine large Copper from him, [illegible] his Neighbour's House was untouch'd.

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The same Night, between Ten and Eleven, Mr. Philebert Spurlock was assaulted in St. Alban's-Street, as he was coming home, by two Russians, who beat him very much, and robb'd him of his Hat, and then made off; but presently afterwards met him again, and would have robb'd him of something else, if he had not, with great Hazard of his Life, attack'd one of the Villains, (whose Name is Samuel Prince) and secur'd him till the Watch came; and on Sunday Morning he was brought before Justice Trent, and by him committed to the Gatehouse.

The Rochester, Capt. Hewitt, from New-England, for London, with Masts, is taken by a Spanish Privateer, and carried into St. Sebastian's: She sail'd from New-England under Convoy of his Majesty's Ship the Squirrel, Capt. Warren, who arriv'd some time since in the River; but was separated in a Gale of Wind. This is look'd upon to be the most valuable Prize to the Spaniards since the Commencement of the War, they being in great Want of Masts.

On Sunday Morning drove ashore near Kingsdown the Royal Anne, Tho. Dennison Master, about 90 Tons, laden with Iron and Deals from London, bound to Bristol. All her Men are saved, but 'tis thought the Ship will be lost.

The Master of a Portugueze Ship just arriv'd, reports, that he saw within seven Leagues of Scilly, the great Spanish Privateer, that mounts 36 Carriage Guns, and carries 300 Men.

Extract of a Letter from Bilboa, Dec. 23. *N. S.*

'Last Night came in one of our Privateers with 'three Prizes, one the Elizabeth, Douglas, from London and Southampton for Madeira and Carolina; a 'Ship for Maryland; and another for Carolina. The 'Privateer, a few Days ago, in thick Weather, attack'd a Swedish Ship about a League and a half 'from Scilly, who kill'd the Captain of the Privateer, 'and the second Mate, with eighteen of their Men, 'and oblig'd them to sheer off.'

Capt. Douglas was sometime since in his Passage from St. Kitt's taken by the Spaniards, and made his Escape, and soon after his Arrival here was made Captain of the Elizabeth.

From the London Gazette.

Hague, Jan. 2. By Letters from Madrid we are inform'd, that the French Squadron from Toulon had been driven into Carthagena in a very shatter'd Condition, having met with a most violent Storm, during which the Lightning had set Fire to the Masts and Rigging of a 70 Gun Ship, which they were obliged to cut away and throw over-board, and that the same Accident had befallen some other Ships of the same Squadron. And it is likewise written from thence, that the Spanish Squadron from Cadiz, which had enter'd the Streights the 4th of last Month, had been driven back into the Ocean by contrary Winds.

Whitehall, Dec. 26. Letters from Lisbon of the 5th Instant give an Account of the Arrival there of his Majesty's Ships the Bedford, Elizabeth, and Essex, with several Transports and Store-Ships for Gibraltar, and that they were preparing, together with the Rochester, to sail as soon as possible, in order to join Rear Admiral Haddock. There is likewise Advice, that his Majesty's Ship the Marlborough, which had been separated from the rest, is safely arriv'd at Gibraltar.

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